

FDD-PST

From: Mitchell, Sue [Sue.Mitchell@bartow.k12.ga.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2000 4:17 PM
To: 'fdd-pst@fns.usda.gov'
Subject: Comments on Food Distribution 2000

Dear Project Coordinator,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the effort USDA is making to bring the Food Distribution Program into the 21st Century.

I have been a Director of School Food Service since the mid '70's working in school systems small and large both in Oklahoma and Georgia. While in Oklahoma City, I was one of the first recipients of USDA's Best Practice Award for increased participation. I feel I know this business pretty well. The summary of Problems in the Commodity Program are right on the mark and you are developing concepts for improvement which are much needed.

Recently, here in Georgia, much to the chagrin of our State Distribution Program, five school districts representing 155 schools have formed a purchasing coop. Our first bid was for commodity processing of ground beef.

The Georgia Food Distribution Division of the Department of Education is STRONGLY against Food Distribution 2000 and they are meeting with Directors state wide to urge them to speak up against any change. They are frightening people by telling them they will loose funding with the new program. Most of the directors just accept everything without question and have never thought to get on your WEB page and read the facts. I am telling you this because I am afraid you will be getting lots of negative comments from Georgia. Please be aware that these will be coming from people who do not have the whole picture. Some of us are very appreciative of what you are doing.

Keep up the good work!!!!

Respectfully,

Sue Mitchell, Director
School Nutrition Services
Bartow County School System
PO Box 200007
Cartersville, GA 30120
1-770-382-3813 ext: 3809
sue.mitchell@bartow.k12.ga.us